

1 **What is claimed is:**

2 1. An optical scanning system for scanning graphical codes on an object to obtain the encoded
3 Internet address for the object comprising:

4 an object comprising at least one graphical code displayed on the object, the graphical code

5 further comprising an encoded Internet address;

6 scanning means for optically scanning the graphical code; and

7 a computer connected to the scanning means and further comprising processing means for

8 decoding the scanned encoded Internet address.

9 2. The optical scanning system for scanning graphical codes on an object to obtain the encoded
10 Internet address for the object as in Claim 1, further comprising communications means for
11 connecting the computer to the identified Internet address.

12 3. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the communications means is a modem.

13 4. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the computer further comprises memory for
14 storing the identified Internet address into the memory of the computer.

15 5. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the scanner further comprises memory for
16 storing the encoded Internet address into the memory of the scanner.

17 6. The optical scanning system as in Claim 5, where the scanner is detachable connected to the
18 computer.

19 7. The optical scanning system as in Claim 5, where the scanner is a wireless infrared scanner.

20 8. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, further comprising a Web browser having a query,
21 where the identified Internet address is inserted into the query of the Web browser.

1 9. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the object is selected from the group consisting
2 of physical three dimensional objects, video monitors, printed media, printed materials, letters,
3 documents, promotional materials, credit cards, business cards, magazine articles, advertisements,
4 newspaper articles, newsletters, and catalogs.

5 10. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the graphical code is two dimensional.

6 11. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the graphical code is multi-dimensional.

7 12. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the size of the graphical code is limited to the
8 size of the text.

9 13. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the graphical code is in the range about 2.12
10 to 7.06 millimeters in size.

11 14. The optical scanning system as in Claim 1, where the graphical code further includes
12 information selected from the group consisting of the equipment to print the graphical code, mailing
13 address of the recipient of the object containing the graphical code, where an item was purchased,
14 the type of object that the graphical code was printed on and the type of object that the graphical
15 code was displayed on.

16 15. An optical scanning system for scanning graphical codes on an object to obtain the encoded
17 Internet address for the object comprising.

18 an object comprising at least one graphical code displayed on an object, the graphical code

19 further comprising an encoded Internet address and

20 scanning means for optically scanning the graphical code and further comprising processing

21 means for decoding the scanned encoded Internet address and memory for storing the

1 identified Internet address.

2 16. A process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object to obtain the encoded Internet
3 address for the object comprising:

4 encoding an Internet address onto an object;

5 displaying at least one graphical code onto an object;

6 optically scanning the graphical code;

7 generating optically scanned data;

8 transmitting the optically scanned data to a computer for processing;

9 processing the optically scanned data to identify the encoded Internet address; and

10 identifying the encoded Internet address.

11 17. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, further
12 comprising automatically accessing the identified Internet address.

13 18. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, further
14 comprising automatically storing the identified Internet address in the memory of the computer.

15 19. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, further
16 comprising automatically inserting the identified Internet address into a query of a Web browser in
17 the computer.

18 20. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, where the object
19 is selected from the group consisting of physical three dimensional objects, video monitors, printed
20 media, printed materials, letters, documents, promotional materials, credit cards, business cards,
21 magazine articles, advertisements, newspaper articles, newsletters, and catalogs.

21. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, where the graphical code is two dimensional.

22. The process for optically scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, where the graphical code is multi-dimensional.

23. The process for optical scanning graphical codes on an object as in Claim 16, where the size of the graphical code is limited to the size of the text.

24. The process for optical scanning graphical codes as in Claim 16, where the graphical code is in the range about 2.12 to 7.06 millimeters in size.

25. The process of printing a graphical code onto an object, where an Internet address is encoded into the graphical code.

26. The process of printing a graphical code onto an object as in Claim 25, where the object is selected from the group consisting of printed materials, letters, documents, promotional materials, credit cards, business cards, magazine articles, advertisements, newspaper articles, newsletters, catalogs and products.

27. The process of printing a graphical code onto an object as in Claim 25, where the graphical code further comprises the graphical code owner's Internet address and additional information selected from the group consisting of information about the origin of the object, the equipment used to manufacture the object, the location of the equipment used to print the graphical codes, the equipment used to print the graphical code, mailing address of the recipient of the object containing the graphical code, where an object was purchased, the type of object the graphical code was printed and the type of object the graphical code was displayed on.